

NEW BEDFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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For Immediate Release

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

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See Also: 2007-19866, 2007-14178
 2007-12800, 2007-12274
 2007-11022, 2007-10923

MALE WANTED FOR DOMESTIC STALKING ARRESTED

New Bedford, Massachusetts – Matthew J. OLIVEIRA (30 years old) of New Bedford was arrested this afternoon at his new residence located at 99 Cleveland Street in New Bedford by members of the New Bedford Police Department and Massachusetts State Police Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section (VFAS) after several months at large.

Lieutenant Bob Richard of the Patrol Division from Station 1 (*commanded by Captain Joseph Cordeiro*), Detective Sergeant Pamela Melo, Detective Christopher Andrade and Detective Alberto Silva of the Domestic Violence Unit with Massachusetts State Trooper David Reis of the Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section (VFAS) continued their investigation into the whereabouts of Matthew J. OLIVEIRA today who was wanted on at least (7) outstanding arrest warrants. Charges against OLIVEIRA ranged from multiple counts of violation of a protective order to assault by means of a dangerous weapon (*a motor vehicle*) as a result of him harassing, threatening and ultimately stalking his (24) year old former friend and girlfriend since February of this year.

After conducting surveillance and following known associates of OLIVEIRA, officers got their big break when they observed OLIVEIRA talking to his mother outside of 99 Cleveland Street where he had apparently moved. OLIVEIRA's mother had been questioned in the past about her son's whereabouts but denied having any knowledge of where he was. When officers saw OLIVEIRA talking to his mother today however they converged on him. Upon seeing police, OLIVEIRA fled inside 99 Cleveland Street and tried to slam the door in the officers' faces but officers burst through the door and took him into custody after a brief struggle.

The victim stated that she had hoped OLIVEIRA would leave her alone despite his constant harassment from February 2007 until June 2007, but she called the New Bedford Police Department on June 19, 2007 after she alleged that OLIVEIRA broke into her home and threatened her. The New Bedford Police Department helped the victim obtain a protective order however OLIVEIRA violated that (7) times in New Bedford alone in addition to attempting to run the victim off the road with a minivan that he was driving in Fairhaven. The victim reported in addition to breaking into her home OLIVEIRA slashed her tires; put a dead squirrel on her car; verbally threatened her; and harassed her over the internet.

The victim reported that she was in fear for her life and also concerned for the welfare of children that she reported OLIVEIRA sometimes watched at a Day Care facility located on Cottonwood Street in Fairhaven, adding that the van OLIVEIRA tried to run her off the road in was the same van that was used to transport children. She added that OLIVEIRA drove that van with a suspended driver's license.

OLIVEIRA was arraigned today in New Bedford 3rd District Court on his outstanding warrants but Judge Julian set bail at \$500.00. Forced to expedite their investigation based on the real possibility that OLIVEIRA would make bail and default from court as he has done on numerous occasions; again become a fugitive; and pose a serious danger to the community in general and the victim in this case in particular, New Bedford Police reviewed all the evidence against OLIVEIRA and made the decision to place him under arrest (*even though he was in custody at the Bristol County House of Correction in Dartmouth*) on **new felony charges** of: (1) Stalking; and, (2) Stalking In Violation Of A Protective Order.

The New Bedford Police requested that the Assistant Clerk of Court conducting reviews of recent arrests hold OLIVEIRA on high cash bail (*at least \$50,000.00*) to ensure the safety of the victim and the community while assuring that OLIVEIRA would appear in court for his arraignment. OLIVEIRA will be arraigned on these new charges tomorrow morning (*Thursday, October 25, 2007*) at New Bedford 3rd District Court.

This arrest highlights the zero tolerance approach to domestic violence embraced by the New Bedford Police Department, the Massachusetts State Police and District Attorney Sam Sutter's Office and demonstrates that when victims of crimes in New Bedford work with the police every effort possible will be made to ensure their safety and bring those accused to justice.



New Bedford Police

Media Report

PERSONS FILE Number: 117792

Name: **OLIVEIRA, MATTHEW J**



Photo Date: 10/24/2007

Race: **WHITE**

DOB: **01/28/1977**

Age: **30**

Sex: **MALE**

Eyes: **GREEN**

Hair: **BROWN**

Height: **71 INCHES**

Weight: **250 LBS**

Last known Address: **99 CLEVELAND ST**

NEW BEDFORD

MA

02744

Parole or Probation?:

